Interpretive Programs And Other Park Events!

Indiana Dunes State Park

1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304 NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Doug Stukey



Nature Center Staff:

Brad Bumgardner David Garner

Pine Grosbeak

January Nature Center Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT Tuesdays-Sunday, Closed Mondays www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring a parent with you.

Tuesday January 1 New Years Day!

10am Sands of Time. Explore dune sand and sand from around the world! We'll meet in the Nature Center Auditorium and discover what makes a sand particle special.

2pm March of the Penguins. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this amazing 90 minute documentary that won the academy award for best documentary. Walk with the penguins! Seating first come, first serve.

Wednesday January 2

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

Thursday January 3

2pm Aliens of the Deep. Lay your eyes on some of the strangest looking animals in Lake Michigan and hear their stories during this 30 min. program in the nature center auditorium. DG

Friday January 4

10am Cross Country Skiing. Break out your skis and join the naturalist for a 90 min. winterland tour on our groomed cross country ski trail. If no snow, we'll hike it. Meet at the Nature Center. BB

Saturday January 5

10am Winter Reflections. See the majesty of a Duneland winter during this 30 min. program and slide show from the comfort of the heated Nature Center auditorium. DG

2pm Winter Survival. Find the similarities and differences between us and wild animals during this 30 min. program in the Nature Center. Could you survive the night right now!? DG

Sunday January 6

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. DG

2pm Winter Reptiles! While the dunes reptiles are snug in bed for a long winter's sleep, visit the Nature Center and learn how our native reptiles cope with the layer of snow. DG

Saturday January 12

10am Winter Dune Tops. Take a winter stroll to the top of Mt. Tom this morning. We'll meet at the Nature Center and take a moderate hike to the highest point in the park. Bundle up and join us! DG

2pm Just a Few Furs. Examine animal skulls and furs and help us explore how the Indiana Dunes' mammals tough out the winter. Meet in the (heated) Nature Center Auditorium. Join us! DG

5pm Saturday Night Ski-in! Break out your skis, snowshoes, or warm hiking boots and and join us for an evening adventure in the dune woodlands. We'll meet at the Wilson Shelter to enjoy a warm fire, before beginning our hour trek into the winter wonders of the dunes! In lieu of no snow, we'll still hike it. BB

Sunday December 13

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get up close encounters with juncos, chickadees and more! BB

2pm Shelf Ice Spotlight! Experience the intricate architecture and hidden dangers of the winter during this 30 min. program and slide show in the nature center auditorium. Afterwards we can carpool to the beach to look for shelf ice (weather permitting). DG

Saturday January 19

Welcome Geocachers to the Indiana Dunes Geocache Adventure!

10am Shipwreck Stories! Imagine going down in the icy cold waters of Lake Michigan! Not so hard to imagine if you were the crew of the J.D.Marshall. Join the Naturalist in the Nature Center Auditorium for a look at the dunes' shipwreck stories. DG

12pm Indiana Dunes Geocache Adventure Explore Indiana Dunes with your GPS unit, and win prizes too! The Geocache Adventure is a geocaching event that lets geocachers in the tri-state area compete and have fun. For registering and for more information visit geocaching.com, and search zip code 46304 for more information.

Sunday January 20

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get up close encounters with juncos, chickadees and more! BB

2pm Tree ID Trek! Meet the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for a short stroll to get to know the local trees in our own backyard. Bundle up and join us! BB

Saturday January 26

10am Winter Wetlands. Bundle up and join the Naturalist for a winter stroll into the Duneland wetlands. We'll explore how life goes on below the icy prison of the ponds and streams. Join us for this hour hike at the Nature Center. BB

2pm Winter Dunes... A Slide Show Tour. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this scenic 30 minute slide show tour of our beautiful dunes blanketed in snow. Explore chilly sites from the comfort of your heated chair! BB

Sunday January 27

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get up close encounters with juncos, chickadees and more! DG

2pm March of the Penguins. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this amazing 90 minute documentary that won the academy award for best documentary. Walk with the penguins! Seating first come, first serve.

Indiana Dunes Winter Photography Contest!

Begins February 1st!



Winners will be selected from three categories:

Favorite Indiana Dunes Shot: voted by park staff

Viewers Choice Dune Shot: voted by the public

Viewers Choice Dune Kid's Shot: voted by the public.

Prizes include 2008 DNR Annual Entrance passes, kid's baskets, and more! For more information contact the Dunes State Park Nature Center at 219-926-1390.